

Order of Service - December 18, 2022

Celebrant - Charles Loflin

Reflection Title - "What Do You Expect?"

	Component	Person	Title/Description	Audio Source	Video Source
1	Display Order of Service			[Audio Playlist]	[Slideshow]
3:25 - Check that the celebrant and welcome speaker are ready. 3:30 - Introductory technical announcements - Mute All and invite the first speaker to unmute. Cue for Welcome Speaker = "Recording Started"					
2	Welcome/Board Minute	Charlie?	Welcome Script Revised 2022.09	[Speaker]	Camera
3	Chalice Lighting	Charles	You Are the Holiday Miracle By Gwen Matthews	[Speaker]	Camera
4	Song	Markus	#99 Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen	Video-Audio	[video]
5	Time for All Ages	Melissa	Captain Starfish	Speaker	Camera
6	Joys and Sorrows	Chris		[Speaker]	Camera (auto switch)
7	Meditation	Charles		Speaker	Camera
7	Song	Markus	#55 Dark of Winter	Video-Audio	[video]
8	Reading	Chris	Mark 11:12-21	[Speaker]	Camera
9	Anthem	Markus	Ghosts That We Knew - Mumford & Sons	Video-Audio	
10	Reflection	Charles		[Speaker]	Camera

11	Interactive	Charles		[Speaker]	Camera Slideshow]
11	Share the Plate for May	Chris	UUSC	[Speaker] Al	Camera Slideshow]
13	Closing Song	Markus	#108 My Life Flows on in Endless Song	Video-Audio	[video]
14	Closing Words	Charles	Now the Work of Christmas Begins By Howard Thurman	Speaker]	Camera
	coffee hour				

Reflection Theme/Summary for Newsletter

WORSHIP MATERIALS and LINKS

Chalice Lighting

You Are the Holiday Miracle
By Gwen Matthews

In the dark, swoops of evergreen garland with small white lights decorate an outdoor fence.

As December opens up before us, we welcome in the gift of reflection. We turn toward our holiday celebrations and search for common threads of meaning.

We begin with Yule, the winter solstice, and we are invited to explore duality, cycles, and seasons, and to witness the Holly King being overcome by the Oak King. Yule reminds us that we all partake in the miracle of renewal.

Hanukkah, the festival of lights, commemorates a time of miracles when the faith of the Jewish people sustained them to reclaim their holy temple and keep the light of the menorah burning for eight days.

Christmas, the celebration of Jesus' humble birth in a manger, offers us to revisit the miracle of birth and the desire to find saviors to heal the scars of humanity.

Here, today, you are just as much a holiday miracle as the turning of the earth, as persistence and dedication to a faith, as the creation of each new life. We see the love you

give to others, the space you create to hold one another's joys and sorrows, and the generosity and spirit you entrust to this community.

You are the holiday miracle. This community is one of miracle-makers.

Reading

Mark 11:12-21 (NIV)

The next day as they were leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry. Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to find out if it had any fruit. When he reached it, he found nothing but leaves, because it was not the season for figs. Then he said to the tree, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again." And his disciples heard him say it.

On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the temple courts and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves, and would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts. And as he taught them, he said, "Is it not written: 'My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations'? But you have made it 'a den of robbers.'"

The chief priests and the teachers of the law heard this and began looking for a way to kill him, for they feared him, because the whole crowd was amazed at his teaching.

When evening came, Jesus and his disciples[e] went out of the city.

In the morning, as they went along, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots. Peter remembered and said to Jesus, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree you cursed has withered!"

Closing Word

Now the Work of Christmas Begins
By Howard Thurman

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost,
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the people,
to make music in the heart.

Action Items - Emails

- Confirm Welcome Speaker
- ~~8th Principle~~
- Readers - Cass
- Tech Person - Chris
- Time for All Ages - Melissa
- Newsletter - Ann Marie